

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

May 15, 2019

Re: AU Docket No. 17-182; WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 13, 2019, Scott Anderson and Nicole Tupman of Midcontinent Communications (Midco) met with Terri Natoli, Pamela Arluk, Ryan Palmer, Alexander Minard, and Adam Copeland of the Wireline Competition Bureau regarding the Connect America Fund Phase II Auction (CAF), and Midco's CAF application and award.

Midco provided an overview of its 85-year operational history in rural America using the enclosed presentation. Midco discussed its CAF award and plans on servicing CAF locations using our next generation, mid-band LTE fixed wireless network backhauled to our Gigabit-capable wired network. Midco plans to serve CAF locations primarily with data and voice using fixed wireless technology.

Midco also discussed its experiences with and approval of the CAF rules and the auction system software. Midco would support the Commission using a similar process for future auctions. Midco offered one minor suggestion that shapefiles of GIS and mapping data be provided during any future auction.

In accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, I have filed a copy of this notice electronically in the above-referenced dockets. Please address any questions regarding the foregoing to me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Nicole Tupman

Nicole Tupman Assistant General Counsel nicole.tupman@midco.com

Enclosures

cc: Terri Natoli Pamela Arluk Ryan Palmer, Alexander Minard Adam Copeland

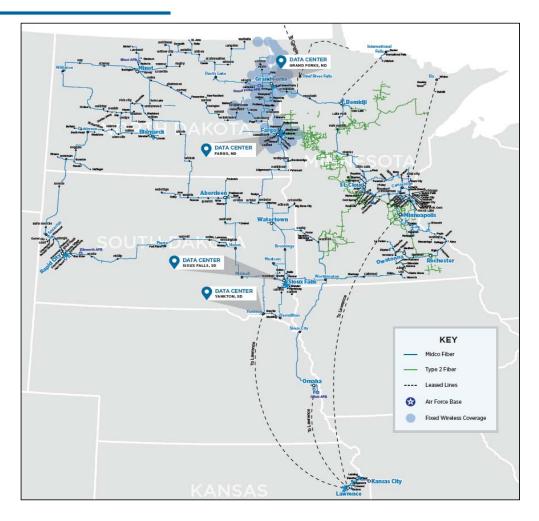
Closing the Digital Divide through CAF Phase II



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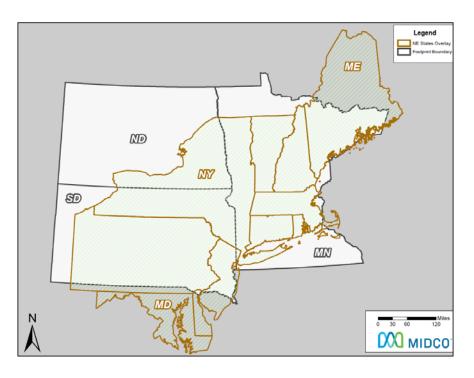


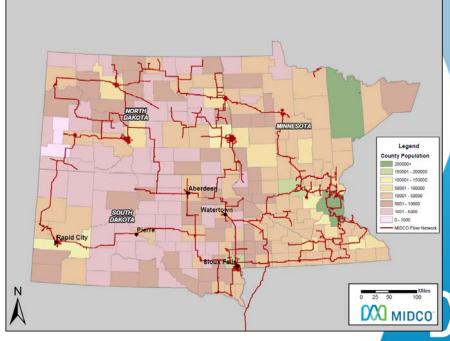
Current Network





Midco Serves Rural America





Let's Go®

- Northeast: approx. 61.2 million people
- Midco footprint: approx. 7.2 million people

Half of the counties in the Dakotas have fewer than 5,000 people

Fiber Backbone

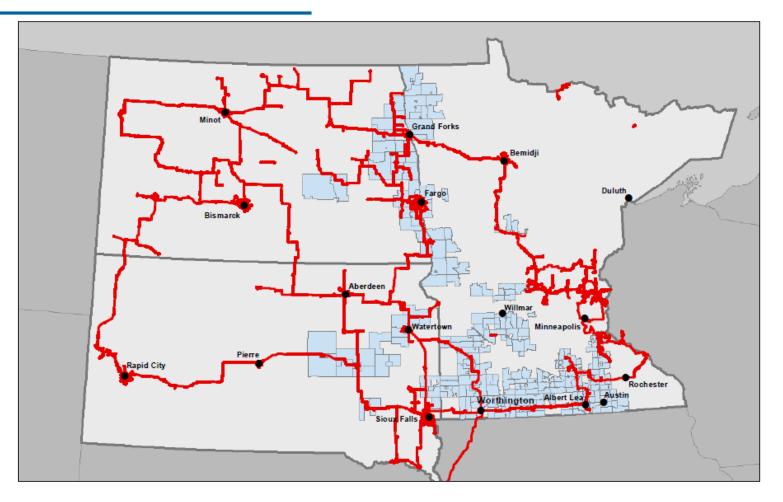
Almost 10,000 miles of fiber



- Approximately 400,000 customer relationships on wired plant
- Over 90% of footprint has Gig fiber access
- Starting to implement 10G for fiber-smart, 2-way carrierclass 10G speeds

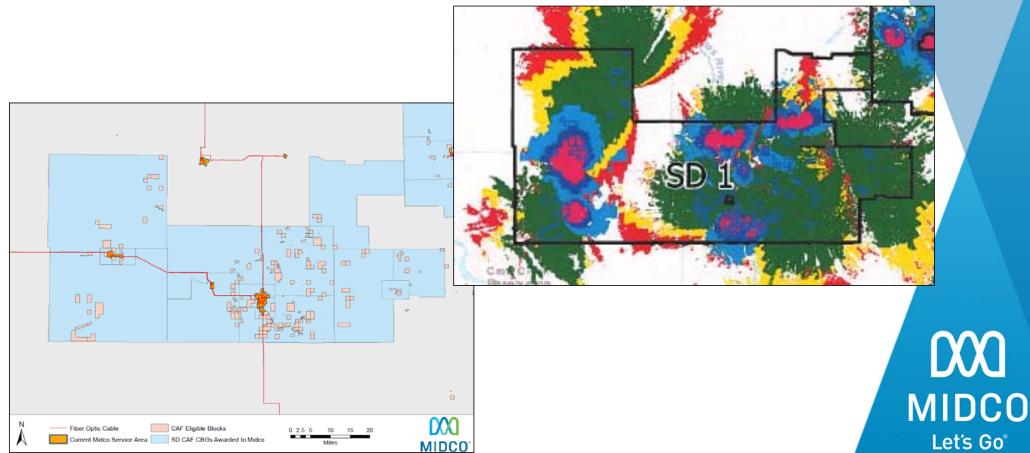


CAF Areas





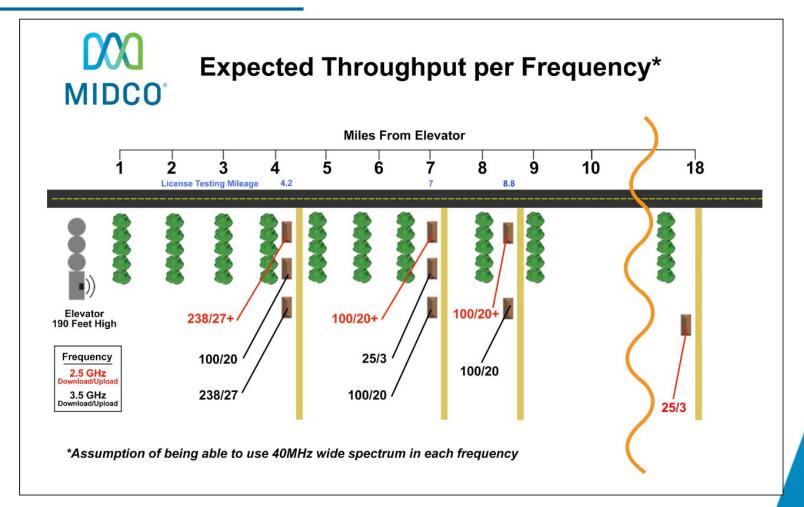
Coverage Extends Beyond CAF Locations



MIDCO'

Current Midco Service Area SD CAF CBGs Awarded to Midco

Mid-Band LTE Network





Our Mid-Band LTE Network Has a Path to Fixed "5G"



4G LTE

Deploy LTE today!

Leverage powerful features
for double capacity,
increased efficiency and
higher peak rates, allowing
for more subscribers per
cell. Keep customers happy
until 5G is baked.

Dual 4G/5G

As 5G gets released, begin introducing 5G connectivity to augment capacity. Leverage components from your existing 4G network to keep costs low, but increase throughput and reliability to stay competitive.

Full 5G!

Convert to 5G at your own pace! As 5G matures, we'll help you stay ahead of the game. Deploy 5G to access the highest speeds & efficiency, and keep up with exploding customer demand.



CAF as One Step to Close the Digital Divide

